Officer of Kalina-Cycle Technology

4504. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Energy Inc. an American Company has offered India its 'Kalina-Cycle' technology and expertise for substantial increase in thermal power plant efficiency, reduction in operations costs and lower plant emissions ;

(b) whether it is a fact that adoption of this technology could save India upto 20 billion dollars in 10 years and also a 20 per cent reduction in capital cost of new plants being set up ; and

(c) whether Government would consider setting up a commercial size demonstration unit based on Kalina-Cycle technology for a realistic evaluation of its potential ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) M/s. Exergy Inc. of USA has offered Kalina-Cycle Technology for direct fired power generation systems. The power generation efficiency is claimed to be higher by 4 to 5%. This technology is not an established and proven one and cannot be employed on commercial scale. In view of this, the indicated savings as well as reduction in capital costs cannot be estimated.

(c) It requires huge investment towards development of equipment like boiler, steam turbine etc. and setting up of a demonstration plant for proving its cost effectiveness. In view of this, BHEL has proposed association of its Engineers with demonstration plant being planned in USA by M/s. Exergy Inc. of USA.

Joint Venture between National Grid Company and Power Grid Corporation

4505. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Grid Company of UK has proposed to set up a joint venture with Power Grid Corporation of India Limited for taking up transmission jobs in India ; and

(b) whether the National Grid's offer would be utilised for on-going projects, especially the Anpara Project of the UP State Electricity Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding between POWER GRID and National Grid Company (NGC), UK confirming mutual willingness to build, own and maintain Northern Region to Eastern Region inter-connection transmission project between MAU and Biharshariff has been siggned. As the MAU signed so far is specific to this project, National Grid offer cannot be utilised for the implementation of on-going projects, especially the Anpara project of UPSEB.

Transmission and Distribution Systems

4506. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that transmission and distribution systems have been neglected ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the expenditure incurred on the transmission and distribution systems is not commensurate with that made on generation ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(e) whether Government are aware of the World Bank study which recommends that it should be equal ; and

(f) if so, what are the details of steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) The transmission system (EHV) in the country has been planned as a part of the evacuation system for the generation projects installed in the country after conducting system studies and requirement. The distribution system has been extended from time to time for meeting immediate load demand without strengthening distribution network and building up back up system. There have been slippages due to the paucity of funds.